Today in Minneapolis, a jury voted to convict Derek Chauvin, former Minneapolis police officer, of the charges against him in relation to the murder of George Floyd last May.

The verdict in this case comes nearly one year after many of us shared a sense of shock, fear, outrage and sadness in the wake of Floyd’s death. I view today’s decision as but one step in our nation’s reckoning with the racism and discrimination that is embedded in many of our systems and institutions.

Floyd’s death and the events that followed were a catalyst for the creation of our eight specific commitments to promote diversity, equity and inclusion at UTA. Our work is ongoing and steadfast, and I ask that each of you continue to be our trusted partners as we strive for progress that celebrates and encourages meaningful change.

I am hopeful for our future and encourage each of you to remain dedicated to serving as change agents—to continue to use your voices and to lead by example, on campus and off, to foster a more diverse, inclusive and equitable community.

Now and forever, I am proud to be a member of the Maverick community as we strive to do our part to foster a more just nation, and serve as examples to overcome hatred, inequality and violence.

Teik C. Lim, Ph.D., Interim President

Read School of Social Work’s Dean Scott Ryan’s Statement here.
STUDENT ORGANIZATION SPOTLIGHT

Why you should apply to be a Graduate Student Leader (GSL)
This program allows you to be a bridge builder between our administration and your fellow Social Work peers.

Becoming a GSL will:
• Allow you to network with faculty and administration
• Build on your leadership and communication skills
• Learn how to be an advocate for your peers as well as for yourself

Y O U  M A T T E R

Get Support

UTA Care Team
The Care Team is composed of Success Coaches that are here to help students succeed while attending UTA.

This includes academic and personal dilemmas a student may be facing.

Success Coaches are here to:
Connect
Advise
Refer
Encourage

Reach out to our Success Coaches today!
email: careteam@uta.edu
Division of Student Success

S T U D E N T  O R G A N I Z A T I O N  S P O T L I G H T

It’s All About Relationships

I teach Lifespan and Development. It’s a big class in the sense of the great breadth and depth of content and concepts that are covered. We start with conception, pregnancy, and birth, travel the life course through all of the major developmental stages of the individual, finish with the end of life and death, and look at all of these experiences through biological, psychological, social, and spiritual lenses. Like I said, it’s a lot!

For the longest time, I struggled to find the theme that connected everything and all of the different perspectives that we cover. I need to find themes. To make sense of things, I need to see how things are connected. And it was earlier this semester, as I openly struggled to communicate to the students exactly what it is that we’re looking for in this class, that I found it. This core, foundational class in social work, it’s all about relationships.

Think about it... It’s through relationship that conception occurs. The baby develops in the womb through the relationship with the mother. The child is birthed and the developmental trajectory and health and well-being is continually shaped by the relationships – parents, family, friends, communities, society - that do or do not nurture and care for the child. And if we jump to the end of life when people reflect on their life and confront regret and what they wish they had given more time and attention to, it’s not work or more money, it’s their relationships. Also, loneliness and social isolation – the absence of relationships – is a greater predictor of premature death for older adults than most other health and physical conditions. At every stage throughout the entirety of our lives, it’s all about relationships!

Now, social work. Think about that name for a moment... social work... Social! This calling, this profession, this practice is literally all about relationships. And the best social workers don’t necessarily have the best grades nor the greatest academic prowess. The research is clear: a 4.0 GPA or diagnostic or technical skill is not related to empathy, presence, and connection with others. If there was one thing that we should expect every social work student to learn: it’s all about relationships.

What are you focused on, a perfect academic record or putting the social in every social work role you find yourself in?

The charge is clear: be good to each other. Who is vulnerable or marginalized changes depending on context and environment. We have eyes that point outward for a reason, to see beyond ourselves, to see others. Look for those who are left out or pushed aside, and bring them in. Let everyone in. Put and keep the social in social work. It - this life, health, wellbeing, a better way of living for all – it’s all about relationships.

Craig Keaton, MSW | Doctoral Student | Adjunct Professor

Rental Assistance

Rental assistance is available for up to 6 months through Arlington Housing Authority for Arlington residents who are behind on their rent due to the pandemic if they meet certain criteria such as income, need is directly related to the pandemic, currently behind on rent, and a few others. The application is at www.arlingtonhousing.us and funding is still available for the program.

GET SUPPORT

Did you know as a student veteran you may qualify for free meals?

Meals for Vets is a program that provides federal student veterans who have low income with a free meal.

To qualify:
• Must have served on or after August 23, 1990 and at any time thereafter
• Must have been honorably discharged
• Must have been on active duty and have a DD214
• Must meet income qualifications

For more information call 1-800-534-VETS

If you like You Matter posts and want to explore them more deeply, please consider joining us for a Wounded Healers meeting. You can find us on Teams!
**ADVISING**

- **Summer class registration opened April 5th:** We’ve heard from you that many of you are interested in learning more. Stay tuned as we are developing a guide with the different paths to the LCDC that will be shared in this newsletter at a future time.
- **If your advisor’s appointment schedule is full, please consider emailing them for email-advising, or attend their weekly Power Hour.** Please check advising appointments every Monday when new availability opens up for the coming weeks.
- **Don’t need a full advising appointment but have general questions?** Join your advisor for their weekly Power Hour!

  - Toy Howard  Monday 10-11  Click here to join the meeting
  - Valerie Adame  Tuesday 11-12  Click here to join the meeting
  - Maresia Davis  Wednesday 11-12  Click here to join the meeting
  - Cleondria Marable  Thursday 11-12  Click here to join the meeting

**GRADUATION**

- Our School of Social Work Ceremony will be combined with College of Architecture, Planning and Public Affairs, Division of Student Success and the Honors College. The ceremony will be held on Friday, May 14 at 9:00 a.m. at Globe Life Field.
- The Virtual Commencement will take place on Sunday, May 16th at 5:00pm CST through an on-demand website that has video-driven name calling, slide presentations, and videos from university officials. We do not yet know which day the Social Work commencement will be. We will share additional details as soon as we receive them.
- **The deadline to apply to graduate in May passed on March 1. To apply late, contact your advisor. (There is a $60 late fee.)** All students planning to graduate this spring must apply to graduate using MyMav. You must apply to graduate regardless of whether you will walk at a commencement ceremony. Applying to graduate is necessary to have your degree conferred AND in order to receive your diploma. Fee is $40.
- **In-person, virtual commencement programs planned for May:**
  - UT Arlington will host in-person commencement ceremonies at Globe Life Field from May 13-16 to celebrate its spring 2021 and all 2020 graduates, while preserving virtual commencement ceremonies for those who prefer an online celebration. The spring commencement exercises will mark the first time UT Arlington has hosted in-person ceremonies since December 2019, as all 2020 ceremonies were canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - **All 2020 and spring 2021 graduates should RSVP with their intention to participate in an in-person or virtual commencement ceremony.** To do so, they should register with MarchingOrder using their UTA student email address. (Although the deadline of 3/17 has already passed, students are still able to register via this form.)
  - UTA has posted the schedule for in-person and virtual commencement ceremonies.
  - Visit uta.edu/commencement for details. Questions? Email studentaffairs@uta.edu.

**FIELD PLACEMENTS**

- **InPlace has a new URL!** All students, agencies, and Field Instructors will need to use the new URL: [https://inplace.uta.edu/](https://inplace.uta.edu/)
- **The InPlace fee is $67 per year or $130 for a lifetime.** Each student will need to pay the InPlace fee on the first day of class for that semester they are starting field.
- **InPlace Training and Logbook Training can be found here!**
- **Field forms are available here!**
- **Field FAQ**
  - **If you are having technical difficulties with InPlace please email ssfield@uta.edu and include a screenshot of the issue.**
  - **Are you a CAP student ready for your advanced field placement?** Check out the Funding section for paid opportunities!

**FIELD POWER HOURS**

- **Summer:**
  - The COVID-19 field hours accommodation will continue for Summer 2021
    - Block students must complete a minimum of 408 hours for Summer 2021
    - Split students must complete a minimum of 204 hours for Summer 2021
  - Block field will only be offered in the 14-week Summer Session. Block Field will begin May 17, 2021.
  - Split field will only be offered in the 11-week Summer Session. Split Field will begin June 7, 2021.
  - The Block Field 14-week Summer Session & Split Field 11-week Summer Session dates have been updated on the Field website calendar.

- **Fall:**
  - The Fall 2021 Field Application opened Monday, April 19, 2021, at 10 am and closes June 4th (not May 18)
  - **Please review the email sent by Dr. Smith on 4/15 for important information and updates on the fall field application.**
  - Students doing a split field placement do not have to reapply for field between Split 1 and Split 2 semesters

**FIELD POWER HOURS**

- **This is an opportunity for you to ask questions, similar to Office Hours for faculty!**
  - Foundation MSW
    - Field Advisor: Natalie Margham
      - 1st & 3rd Monday of the month, 3-4
      - Click here to join the meeting
  - **CAP & Children & Families:**
    - Field Advisor: Monica Brown
      - 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month, 3-4
      - Click here to join the meeting
  - **Mental Health:**
    - Field Advisor: Hector Ramos
      - 1st & 3rd Wednesday of the month, 3-4
      - Click here to join the meeting
  - **Aging & Health:**
    - Field Advisor: Sharon Martin
      - 1st & 3rd Thursday of the month, 3:30-4
      - Click here to join the meeting

**LICENSING**

- **If you’re in your final semester and want to get started on applying to ASWB:**
  - To take the LMSW licensing exam, [click here](https://inplace.uta.edu/) to request the Dean’s Letter for Licensure, which UTA will send to ASWB. More info can be found on the ASWB site and our SSW licensure page.

  **Missed the Social Work Licensing Info Session?** [Here](https://inplace.uta.edu/) is a link to the recording!

- Interested in the LCDC? Scroll to the end of this [licensure](https://inplace.uta.edu/) webpage and click on the Texas LCDC Licensing 2021 PDF for a chart that shows how different education levels can prepare you for the LCDC.
Virtual Events of the Week

An Evening with Wynton Marsalis
On Tuesday, April 27 at 7:30 pm, take a study break to tune into a free virtual performance by jazz musician, trumpeter and Grammy Award winner Wynton Marsalis. Watch the recording here.

Careers in Macro Social Work
Miss the SAMSW professional panel discussion focused on macro social work careers? Check out the recording here.

Early voting
UTA is an early voting site for the May 1 local elections. Cast your ballot 8 a.m.-5 p.m. through Tuesday, April 27, at the Maverick Activities Center. Read more for times and other locations in Tarrant County.

Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day Symposium
Mark your calendars to join us on May 6 for the 4th annual Older Adult Mental Health Awareness Day Symposium! This free, all-day, virtual event will feature engaging plenaries, informative sessions, and a diverse array of topics addressing the most pressing needs in older adult mental health.

Do you want to serve college students with your social work degree?
Our dual degree option with a Master’s in Education focused on Higher Education prepares you for just that! Click here to view the information session recently held. If you or someone you know is interested in this dual degree, please have them contact Courtney Jones (Courtney.Jones@uta.edu) for more information.

COURSE REGISTRATION

- Registration is open for summer and fall.
- When searching for classes, be sure to select the correct term. MyMav may default to 2218 (Fall). 2215 is Summer.
- Course Modalities will be listed under Course Attribute in MyMav. More information about each modality can be found here. Here are some examples:
  - Online 1: Asynchronous
  - Online 2-Synchronous (live virtual class during times listed)
  - Hybrid (Combination of face-to-face and live virtual class)

Wednesday, 2-3pm Virtual Coffee & Tea with Dr. P
Please drop in on Teams to visit with me. This is your time every week to share concerns, questions, suggestions, and triumphs. I look forward to seeing you! Join Microsoft Teams Meeting
**Funding**

Emergency Rental Assistance Program

The Neighborhood Services Department is offering an Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP) to Fort Worth residents who have been impacted by COVID-19. Click Here to Apply for Emergency Rental Assistance.

UTA is Offering Additional Financial Help to Students in Need

UTA will provide HEERF II Emergency Grants of $1,000 for full-time students and $500 for part-time students who meet eligibility criteria, and $600 for full-time Accelerated Online students and $300 for part-time. Apply by logging into your MyMav account, clicking the ‘MyForms’ tile located on the UTA Student Homepage, and clicking on the “Fill Out a New Form” button. Students may apply for assistance through UTA’s Emergency Assistance Fund. Visit HEERF II Frequently Asked Questions page for more info.

**Research**

Social Work Course Guides

Student Research Opportunity Center

**Stay Safe**

UTA continues protocols to protect campus community

In the interest of the health and safety of our community, UTA’s current COVID-19 protocols and guidance will remain in effect through May 31, at which point they will be reassessed. This decision has been made after review of the latest Governor’s Executive Order, which goes into effect Wednesday, March 10, and its direction that higher education institutions are to follow the most recent guidance issued by the Texas Education Agency. Read the announcement.

Dean Ryan’s Statement on COVID-19 Health Disparities

UTA’s COVID Vaccine Resource Page

If you believe you have contracted COVID19, please type in 'COVID-19 Testing' and your zip code into the Texas Health and Human Services to find a testing location closest to you.

Did you know? Any Texas resident can register for a Covid vaccine in any Texas County! Sign up in Tarrant County HERE or Dallas county HERE.

**Reseach**

Have you tested positive? Had close contact with someone with Covid?

1. Complete mandatory reporting form
2. If needed, you can:
   • Ask professors for deadline leniency
   • Contact your USL, Program Director and/or Academic Advisor for additional support and guidance.

**Course Spotlight**

**Managing Stress and Anxiety During COVID-19**

UTA Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

Therapist Assisted Online (TAO)

Download “Thrive at UTA” on App Store or Google Play

Mays Talk 24HR Crisis Line

Call 817-272-8215

Visit uta.edu/caps for more information

**Uta is a Community that Cares**
Check Canvas for the MavsUnite Page! To add please e-mail: Chantinia Chansler

SAR Center
(Formerly Office of Students with Disabilities)

Webinar Library
Isabella Hong, an MSW Alum, graciously compiled a list of webinar resources and a video going over the basic functioning of Teams to any who may need assistance. Special thanks to Jose B. Yerena, LCPAA, who has taken over updating the list on a weekly basis! Please note that it is necessary to ask your supervisor permission for these to count towards any required field hours.

MSW Specialties  Social Work Webinars List  Basic Function of Teams

Rental Assistance Program
The Tarrant County Rental Assistance Program assists residents who have been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. For more details, email renthelp@tarrantcounty.com or call 817-850-7940.

Emergency Assistance Fund
UTA students with a temporary financial hardship resulting from a sudden emergency may apply for financial help.

Get Microsoft 365, The Wall Street Journal and Other Apps FREE with your student email!

How to gain access to SSW writing resources: Advising & Student Success Canvas

UTA/Tri-C Food Pantry Distributions
Currently distributing groceries on Thursdays only, from 9-11:45 a.m. and 2:45 p.m. To receive these grocery bags you must send an email to utafoodpantry@gmail.com to request a pickup time. Include student name, last four digits of UTA ID, requested grocery pickup time, choice of vegetarian, chicken, or any meat groceries.

If you have any questions or content suggestion for the newsletter, please contact Meghan Sheridan: mls9929@mavs.uta.edu